

A Horrifying and Hopeful View of the Coming Tribulation

(Mark 13:14-26)

Proposition: Every person can understand the horrors and the one and only hope of the Great Tribulation by responding to the three imperatives drawn out of the text.

I. Reflect on the Terror in the Coming Tribulation (Vs. 14-19)

- A. The Terror of Defilement (Vs. 14)
- B. The Terror of Desperation (Vs. 15-19)

II. Remember the Truth of the Coming Tribulation (Vs. 20-23)

- A. The Truth of Power (Vs. 20)
- B. The Truth of Pretenders (Vs. 21-22)
- B. The Truth of Prophecy (Vs. 23)

III. Rely on the Triumph over the Coming Tribulation (Vs. 24-27)

- A. The Stage of Triumph (Vs. 24-25)
- B. The Center of Triumph (Vs. 26)
- C. The Saving of Triumph (Vs. 27)

A Horrifying and Hopeful View of the Coming
Tribulation (Mark 13:14-26). Through-
out history there have been many
tribulations. Tribulations of Biblical
proportion. From the puffed days
of diuine regret, to Babylon,
to the assersions, Remains of antiquity
to modern day atrocities of Hitler
and the Third Reich, to Stalin
and Mao to the Killing Fields of
Cambodia. Time of unthinkable
unspeakable torture and blood-
shed. And yet the Bible records
a coming tribulation, a great trib-
ulation of which Jesus said in
in vs 19 "For in those days" These are the words
of coming Judgment that struck fear
into the heart of a seven year old boy
30 years ago, and yet still today cause
me to shudder. No matter if preachers
refuse to preach it, and teachers choose
more palatable topics to expound, the
prophecies of coming devastation from
the lips of the Lord Jesus, must be ~~believed~~
believed, and taught w/ the utmost urgency.

I. Reflect on the Terror in the Coming Trib (4-11)

We live in a world that is under the
threat of islamic terrorism. The terrifying
fear of sudden destruction at the hands of
muslim extremists is a R. + truth in front of

moment Jesus uttered these words there has been a threat

A. The Terror of Defilement (14) - Earlier in the chapter, Jesus was describing both impending and extending future events. Events after resurrection events quite possibly in first 1/2 of Great Tribulation. In vs 14, he is doing the same. "Abomination" idolatry, detesting. Desolation - abandonment. This phrase used by Daniel. Used in various ways. Syrian King Antiochus Epiphanes sacrificed pig in Temple in 167 BC. Prophesied by Daniel 11:31. In AD 70 after Temple destroyed Romans erected Roman Eagle emblem and sacrificed to Pagan Gods on Temple mount. That is impending prophecy. The excluded

B. The Terror of Desperation (15-19) - Listen what Jesus is telling them. When you see this: Run! in vs 14. Hide in vs 15. Flee in vs 16. Hurry in vs 17. Get away vs 18. The pain and woe of tribulation is at its most fevered pitch. All through the ages, creation has groaned and writhed under the birth pains of the coming Day of the Lord. This moment in vs 14 mark the beginning of the end. What a terrible day. The end is coming. Lost world prepare to meet thy God!

II. Remember the Truth of the Coming Trib (20-23) Imagine yourself in the midst of such a tribulation discovering a bible and reading these fearful lines what a help and comfort it would be to read

1) ...utmost urgency. Because without the hope of Jesus as our Saviour, the reality of the Great Tribulation may very well be thrust upon us in our lifetime. Every person can understand the horrors and the one and only hope of the Great Tribulation by responding to the three imperatives drawn out of the text.

2) ...the extended prophecy lies in Revelation. After the Antichrist makes a treaty with the Jews, rebuilds the temple, then he will break the treaty, and set himself up as god in the Temple! Defilement! A complete abandonment of the world to the Antichrist. Abomination of Desolation!

1) ...every living thing on this planet, but just as Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord be for the world was consumed by water, so did these elect chosen people found grace in the eyes of the Lord before the world was consumed by fire!! God is in control of this whole thing. That's a truth to hang on to.

2) Matthew 7:21-23 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

3) ...signs of Moses. Yet they were false prophets, taking a nation to hell!

4) ...whose abilities we can never calculate, whose capabilities we can never tabulate. He has told us the end from the beginning and His counsel abides. Isaiah 46:10 Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure:

the truth of the next few verses

A. The Truth of Power (20) - In this chaotic period in which it seems the world is spinning out of control on its way to destruction, this verse assures us of the Power of God to control situation. He is working out his purposes and staging his coming Kingdom. Such a flood tide of destruction would have surely ~~have destroyed~~ every living thing.

B. The Truth of Pretenders (21-22) - In such a volatile time, there will be pretenders, people that will profess to be Messiahs, Christ, ones sent from God. These can back their claims with much ~~and~~ omens. They may even come in the Name of Christ. Matthew 24:21-23 ³ Even the Prophets of Moses day could copy the signs of Moses.

C. The Truth of Prophecy (23) - The one and only unaided of God the Lord Jesus Christ is the only one that has laid out in such vivid detail and such pointed accuracy the exact events of human History. One author writes. In Christ "we meet a prophet whose qualities we can never estimate, whose

III. Rely on the Triumphant Coming (24-27). We have seen the horrors of the Great tribulation, but just as there beaven for hell, Salvation has been made for those who are in

hope for the Horror, there is triumph for the lesser

A. The Stage of Triumph (24-25):

The stage for the coming Triumph will be the heavens, in which will be terrifying sight and chases. These signs are in keeping w/ the ancient prophets of old and will simply darken the stage before the King appears in the spotlight.

The black velvet of the emptied heavens will make

B. The Center of Triumph (26) And then

at the center of it all, shall be the Son of Man. In all his majesty in all his splendor, in all his order, in all his glory. The faithful and true riding on a white horse, with eyes of fire crowned w/ many crowns. ^{Reigns} in a vesture dipped in blood, King of Kings ^{Lord of} Lords.

C. The Sawning of Triumph (27) Upon

his arrival he will smite the son of Perdition, set up his 1000 year Kingdom and an verse says he will gather his elect. Those saved in that period unto himself. No matter where they have hidden them selves. in the world or in Heaven.

IV Close We know from the entire revelation of scripture there is coming a rapture a catching away of the saints, the other phase of God. Do you know the Lord tonight?

- 1) ...will cause the diamond presence of the son of Man shine all
the more glorious!